

March 29, 2007

The Calvin Ball Bulletin

A bulletin to keep you and your neighbors informed of current news and happenings in our community.

For more District 2 News go to our website at:
www.howardcountymd.gov/CountyCouncil/CC_DistrictTwo.htm

We Want To Hear From You!

The link below will navigate you to a list of meetings open to the public. If you have specific questions please call the contact number listed for that meeting.

http://www.co.ho.md.us/News/HCG_Portal_PublicMeetings.htm

Budget- Fiscal Year 2008

The budget process for fiscal year 2008 will start in April. For detailed information on how you can participate in this process, click here

http://www.co.ho.md.us/CountyCouncil/CC_BudgetCalendar.htm

Boards and Commissions Vacancies

Persons interested in applying for a Board or Commission are invited to view the following link

http://www.howardcountymd.gov/PortalServices/HC_BoardsandCommissions.htm

BRAC- Get Involved!

The Howard County BRAC Task Force is moving into phase II of its work. Phase II will focus on the impact of overall Fort Meade growth on 6 specific areas in Howard County. They are: Work Force Development, Transportation, Education, Infrastructure, Work Force

Housing and Health and Human Services. Residents and business persons of Howard County are invited to participate in the work of the Task Force during this phase. If you are interested, please contact the Executive Director of the HC BRAC Office at kmenser@howardcountymd.gov.

For more information on BRAC please visit
http://www.co.ho.md.us/HCG_ExecutiveBRAC.htm

Current Construction Projects in Our Community

Whiskey Bottom Road/All Saints Road Lane Roundabout Construction

Construction of a roundabout at the intersection of Whiskey Bottom and All Saints Road in Laurel was scheduled to begin **on or about Monday, March 26**. Lane closures will be necessary at times and flagging operations will help direct motorists during the construction. Weather permitting, the project is expected to take 90 working days or less to complete.

Guilford Road and Bridge Replacement

Widening of Guilford Road from Dorsey Run Road in Howard County to Brock Bridge Road in Anne Arundel County to four lanes as well as replacing the bridge over the CSX railroad tracks will begin **on or about April 2, 2007 and end on or about October 2, 2008**. During this time of construction motorists may encounter lane closures.

For questions or concerns about any of these projects, contact Susan Schubel, Public Works Customer Service, at **410-313-3440** or by e-mail to publicworks@howardcountymd.gov.

Police Alert: Some Honda Civics and Acura Integras Targeted for Theft

The Howard County Police Department is alerting owners of Honda Civics and Acura Integra manufactured before 2001 of a recent vehicle theft trend affecting these models.

These cars are more vulnerable to theft because models manufactured before 2001 do not offer ignition immobilizer theft-deterrent systems, which require a properly coded ignition key be used for the engine to start. If an improperly coded key or other device is used, the engine's starting circuit is disabled.

Protecting vehicles with anti-theft devices is a proven way to deter car thieves. Effective devices include steering wheel and column locks, electric security systems, fuel cut off switches, vehicle identification number (VIN) glass etching and GPS recovery systems. Drivers also can participate in the "Watch Your Car" program, which provides decals for owners to voluntarily display on their vehicles to alert police that their car is not normally driven between the hours of 1 a.m. and 5 a.m.

Civic and Integra owners should park in a locked garage if one is available. If not, police recommend blocking the vehicle in the driveway with another vehicle.

The police department and the Maryland/DC Anti-Car Theft Committee will host a free VIN etching event **April 21** at the Kings Contrivance Village Center in Columbia from **9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** Drivers will also be able to enroll in the "Watch Your Car" program at the event. For more information, visit the police department's Web site at www.HCPD.org.

Homeowners Tax Credit and Renters Tax Credit Applications- Now Available!

The 2007 Homeowners Tax Credit and Renters Tax Credit applications are available at www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/taxcresit.html

There is no charge to apply and nothing to lose by doing so.

Spring Grand Opening Weekend at Clark's Elioak Farm- March 31 thru April 1, 2007!

Come see the new animals and the latest attractions from the Enchanted Forest. Pony rides, hayrides and petting farm.
Clark's Elioak Farm, Ellicott City; 410-730-4049;
www.clarklandfarm.com

Attention!!- Long Reach High School Staff, Parents, and Students

The Grounds Service Department has scheduled a pesticide application for the stadium field. The date for the application will be the weekend of **March 31/April 1, 2007 or during the week of spring break**. If unfavorable weather conditions or other extenuation circumstances arise, the intended pesticide application may have to be delayed or postponed to a later date. If the application cannot be made within 14 days of the original planned date a new notice will be issued.

All precautions will be taken to insure the safety of students and staff however, state laws require that the following statement be included in this letter. The office of Pesticide Programs of the United States Environmental Protection Agency has stated that: Where possible, persons who potentially are more sensitive, such as pregnant women and infants (less than two-years old), should avoid any unnecessary pesticide exposure. A summary of the potential adverse effect of the pesticides is below.

Copies of any Material Safety Data Sheet and/or label for any pesticide being applied may be obtained by calling the school office. Should you have any questions regarding your school's application date please contact **Greg Connor at (410) 313-6983**. Question about **pest management should be addressed to Mark Hardin (410)-313-7180**.

PRODUCT NAME: Tupersan

COMMON NAME: Siduron

EPA REGISTRATION NUMBER: 352-307

HEALTH HAZARD DATA: May irritate eyes, nose, throat, and skin

Howard Transit Upgrades Local Bus Service

Beginning **Monday, April 2**, the County will make a comprehensive series of changes to upgrade service on Howard Transit. To celebrate the improvements, customers are invited to ride Howard Transit for “peanuts” on April 2 and 3, when all rides will be just 25 cents and each passenger will get a complimentary bag of candy peanuts.

As a result of the changes, passengers will enjoy bus service to new areas of the County, earlier and later service hours on some routes and half-hour frequency on routes serving Columbia Mall, Howard County General Hospital, Howard Community College and several of the Columbia village centers. To facilitate the changes, several routes will change names and a few underutilized route segments will be eliminated.

For details on all the changes, customers may visit the Howard Transit website at www.howardtransit.com or call Customer Service at 1-800-270-9553.

Attention Artists: Call for Entry for “Young Artist Competition”

Columbia residents, ages 13-18 are invited to create an original piece of artwork illustrating their vision of this year’s Young Artist Competition theme: An Open and Accessible World for All! Watercolor, oils, pastels, pen and ink, charcoal, photography, or mixed media (two-dimensional only) as well as computer generated art is acceptable. Artwork should be no larger than 24"x30" in size.

Entries must be submitted by **April 5, 2007**. Local winning art work will be entered in the Annual International Young Artist Competition of Sister Cities International, in which 10 winning entries will receive awards.

For more information or an entry form, contact the CA Art Center at 410-730-0075, or the CA Sister Cities Program at 410-715-3162.

RESCHEDULED: Howard County Recreation and Parks 1st County Youth Football Summit

The first ever Howard County Youth Football Summit has been **rescheduled for Monday, April 9 at 6:30 PM** at the **Department of Recreation & Parks Headquarters** 7120 Oakland Mills Road, Columbia. Howard County is partnering with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) and USA Football for a summit that will present a unique opportunity for youth football coaches, parents, program administrators and players to come together and share their experiences, observations and plans for youth football in Howard County.

One hundred attendees will participate in an audience response survey administered by the NRPA. The answers will be instantly tabulated and displayed, allowing evaluation and group discussion at the summit. Survey questions developed by NRPA and the Department of Recreation & Parks related to the expectations, concerns and potential of youth football in Howard County will be used to develop future policies designed to improve youth football.

Sign Up For the “Greenovation”: Green Home Renovations

On **Tuesday, April 10**, the Green Building Institute is sponsoring an introductory class on **Passive Solar Design**. By learning about passive solar design, participants will understand how this design takes advantages of the sun’s energy for heating, cooling and daylighting spaces within buildings, homes and structures.

Topics to be covered on the benefits of Passive Solar Design:

- Healthier indoor air quality
- Lower energy bills, increased freedom from utilities
- Low maintenance and reduced operating costs and repairs
- Sunny interiors & open floor plans

The seminar will be held at the Green Building Institute in The Enviro-Center at 7761 Waterloo Road) (Rte. 175), Jessup, Maryland 20794. Registration check-in is from 6:30 p.m. -7:00 p.m. The seminar modules will begin at 7:00 p.m and end at 9:00 PM. For more information and registration please visit www.greenbuildinginstitute.org or you may call the institute at 443-733-1234.

Paraskavedekatriaphobia: Friday the 13th Ghost Tour in April

Paraskavedekatriaphobia is the fear or phobia of **Friday the 13th**. Ellicott City and Savage Mill's infamous ghosts double dare you to take a tour of their favorite haunts. Tours are on the hour from sunset to midnight; reservations are required. Not recommended for the faint of heart! For reservations call Howard County Tourism at 410-313-1900 or e-mail GHOSTS.

Cost: \$8 for Adults, \$6 for Kids(12 & under) & Seniors(65+)
Not recommended for kids under 6 years old. Other days & times & private tours may be available. Tickets can be purchased at the Visitor Information Center located at **8267 Main Street** in the historic district.

2 Locations: Visitors Information Center, 8267 Main Street, Ellicott City & Historic Savage Mill, 8600 Foundry Street, Savage / Sunset - Midnight / Contact: Howard County Tourism, (410) 313-1900

Help Support The Vivian L. Reid Community Fund and Scholarships for Needy Students

A NEW and exciting Gospel Extravaganza 07 is planned for you at the James Rouse Theater, **Saturday, April 14 at the James Rouse Theater of Performing Arts at 6:00 PM**. The event will be hosted by Patrick Ellis, WHUR Radio. Plus, hear the melodic gospel sounds from TAGE's steel drums and other outstanding local church gospel choirs.

Where: James Rouse Theater of Performing Arts

5460 Trumpeter Road, Columbia Maryland

Tickets: \$20 Adults and \$8 (children under 12 years old)

Information: **Barbara Harris**, Public Information Manager

Email: bharris@howardcountymd.gov/ (410)313-6448

Pam Bilal, MAP Supervisor- (410) 313-6039

Email: pbilal@howardcountymd.gov

Proceeds will benefit the Office on Aging, Vivian L. Reid Community Fund and the Tau Pi Foundation Scholarship fund. The Vivian L Reid Community Fund provides assistance to senior citizens in need of emergency aid, and Fraternity scholarships go to graduating Howard County high school students, who need financial assistance to attend college.

Sponsors of this worthy event are the Howard County Office on Aging, Department of Citizen Services, and Tau Pi Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

2007 Celebration of the Arts in Howard County- April 21, 2007

The Howard County Arts Council will host the 10th Annual Celebration of the Arts in Howard County on **Saturday, April 21st, 2007** at the Jim Rouse Theatre for the Performing Arts.

This will be their major fundraiser for the year. Proceeds from the event will support local arts organizations through grants and rental subsidies for the Jim Rouse Theatre.

Jim Rouse Theatre at Wilde Lake High School, Columbia;

<http://www.hocoarts.org/>

Earth Day Celebration and Shredding Event!

The County will be hosting an Earth Day Celebration and Shredding Event on **April 21st, 2007 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.** at the County facilities at 9250 Bendix Road in Columbia.

The festivities will include environmental children's activities, vendor displays, lessons in stream ecology, compost bin give-aways, and recycling bin sales. A shredding truck will also be on hand - residents may bring their documents (up to three bags or boxes) and watch them as they are shredded.

Electronic storage devices (such as hard drives, discs, etc.) may also be brought to the event for destruction, but those will be handled offsite.

Plant a Tree on Earth Day!

Put down roots, plant a tree! Celebrate Earth Day with your family and friends by participating in a tree planting project at one of our county parks. You'll need to bring a shovel and work gloves. Rain date is Saturday, April 28. For additional information **or to sign-up for a park site, call 410-313-4624.**

Children's Discovery Fair - Get on Track with Animals- April 28th!!

There will be over 25 hands-on activities to help children ages 3-5 years old learn school readiness skills.

East Columbia Library, 6600 Cradlerock Way / 9:30 am - 12:30 am /
Contact: Office of Children's Services, (410) 313-1943

NEIGHBOR RIDE- Looking for Spanish and Korean Speaking Volunteers!

Neighbor Ride, a volunteer-based supplemental transportation program, helps residents age 60 and over maintain a good quality of life by providing friendly and reliable door-to-door transportation for medical appointments, religious services, educational pursuits, recreational and social events, exercise classes, and other day-to-day activities.

* Neighbor Ride is looking for Spanish and Korean speaking volunteers to become drivers who can converse with bi-lingual riders.

For more information and to register for a volunteer orientation,
contact Jessica Sleight at 410-884-RIDE, volunteer@neighborride.org
or visit their website at <http://www.neighborride.org/>